Attorney Docket No. AUS920030688US1
Serial No. 10/692,166
Response to Office Action mailed April 18, 2006

I. REMARKS

1. The examiner rejected claims 1-9 under 35 U.S.C. 101 because the claimed invention is directed to non-statutory subject matter. Claims 1-9 are amended to comprise a computer implemented process. Likewise, the method of claims 10-16 are amended to comprise a computer implemented process.

2. The examiner rejected claim 5 under 35 USC 112 as having insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim. Claim 5 is amended to recite "an added aliases list" in line 2.

3. The examiner rejected claims 1-39 under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Icetips Cowboy SQL Templates written in February, 2003 ("ICST"), in view of Evans et al. (US 2004/0220917, filed 9/30/2003) ("Evans").

Applicant has amended each independent claim to add the limitation of automatically placing a clause into a query for a database so that query can only access necessary tables in the database. Applicant submits that this amendment distinguishes over the prior art cited by the examiner and would show the following.

Applicant generates a SQL statement that joins tables from an "added alias list" of tables [0011], and analyzes each table within the "optional where clause table list" to determine if the table is necessary, and then adds the necessary table to an added alias list [0010]. Applicant then creates a query with a (join) WHERE clause string that joins the tables in the added alias list [0011]. Because the (join) WHERE clause string is based on the added alias list which only

contains tables necessary to the query, Applicant has created a SQL statement that when executed, can only access necessary tables.

ICST teaches a method of creating a query for a database using a template. ICST does not, however, disclose prevention of an unnecessary table join in the query.
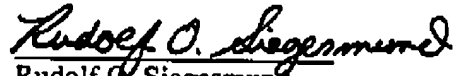
Evans generates a full list of all tables (similar to the "optional where clause table list") within the scope of an *existing* SQL statement ([0015]-[0016], [0037]). Evans analyzes each table to determine if the table is necessary for executing the already existing SQL statement ([0017], [0038]-[0047]). Then, Evans removes necessary tables from the list ([0017], [0048]). Finally, Evans adds a mandatory filter to the existing SQL statement that prevents the execution of joins of tables in the list ([0018], [0081], [0083])

Applicant differs from ICST in view of Evans for two reasons. First, applicant's process pre-screens tables prior to creating a query, while Evans blocks an already existing query from joining tables that are already included in the existing query. Second, applicant adds only necessary tables to a list of tables to join, and then creates a SQL statement that can access necessary tables because it has been created with a (join) WHERE clause linked to a list containing only necessary tables. In contrast, Evans, in response to an existing SQL statement, creates a "blocked table list," and executes the pre-existing SQL statement while blocking joins of any table in the "blocked table list." Thus ICST and Evans together are incapable of creating a query for a database by automatically placing a clause in the query so that the query can only access necessary tables in the database.

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Applicant submits that the claims as presently presented are in condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

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